

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

25 MAY 64

IN 07626

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)	ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION INFO IMMEDIATE PRIORITY	BOOK MULTI SINGLE			

FROM:

[REDACTED]

TO:

[REDACTED]

NO NITE ACTION

REF:

[REDACTED]

07638

1. APPRECIATE REASSURANCES PARA ONE REF.

2. RE QUERY PARA TWO REF., STATEMENT PARA FOUR

[REDACTED]

ABOUT

QUALITY OF MISSION WAS BASED ON TWO CONSIDERATIONS: FIRST, PILOT REPORTED WX BETTER THAN BRIEFED, OR AN ESTIMATED CATEGORY ONE CONDITION OVER MORE THAN NINETY PERCENT OF THE ROUTE. SECONDLY, PAYLOAD RETRIEVED FROM MSN ACFT APPARENTLY UNDAMAGED. THIS COMBINATION SHOULD RESULT IN SUCCESSFUL MISSION.

3. FYI, THERE WAS NO PLAN TO DEVELOP

[REDACTED]

THUS MISSION T284A WILL PROBABLY NOT REACH ROCHESTER UNTIL LATE 26 MAY 21 TIME, BY WHICH MOMENT [REDACTED] WILL PROBABLY HAVE COMPLETED HIS MEETING WITH [REDACTED] EARLIEST MEANINGFUL READOUT LATE 28 MAY HQS TIME.

4. FOLLOWING ARE BALLPARK ANSWERS

[REDACTED]

QUERIES PARA FOUR REF.:

WRITER	SYMBOL		SIGNATURE	
	TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)		TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE	
	PHONE	PAGE NR.	NR. OF PAGES	
	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION			
TOP SECRET				

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173

REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT. 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

FROM:

A. AREA WX WORST IN WINTER MONTHS, WHEN GOOD WX AVERAGES 10 DAYS PER MO. PRESENT AVERAGE NBR/GOOD DAYS/MO IS 20, WITH THIS FIGURE REMAINING RELATIVELY CONSTANT EVEN THRU MONSOON SEASON. MONSOONAL EFFECT GENERALLY STOPS WHEN IT REACHES AREA WEST OF NEPAL, WITH DETERIORATION MOVING FROM EAST TO WEST. AS FAR AS WX IN TIBET/SINKIANG AREA CONCERNED, BEST WX IS IN WINTER, THOUGH EVEN DURING MONSOON TO SOUTHWARD, TIBET/SINKIANG PLATEAU AREAS WILL AVERAGE TEN GOOD DAYS/MO WITH SOME CIRRUS EFFECT. THUS IT WHOLLY POSSIBLE TAKE PICTURES AFTER ONSET MONSOON, BUT IN PERIOD 15 MAY THRU MID-JUNE, TERMINAL WX AT CAN PRESENT MAJOR PROBLEM WITH THUNDERSTORM BUILDUPS TO 50-55 THOUSAND FEET, ASSOCIATED HIGH WINDS AND FROG-STRANGLING DOWNPOURS.

B. WITH REGARD TARGET WX IN DOWN RANGE AREAS FROM CHICOM MISSILE TEST RANGE, DURING PERIOD 15 MAY TO 15 SEPTEMBER, GOOD DAYS AVERAGE ABOUT 10 PER MONTH. HOWEVER, PROBLEM HERE IS THAT OVER SOUTHERN SLOPES OF HIMALAYAS FROM WESTERN BORDER NEPAL EASTWARD, AND NORTHWARD TO ABOUT 150 NM BEYOND SOUTHERN SLOPES OF TIBETAN PLATEAU, THERE IS WHOLLY UN-ACCEPTABLE SEVERE TURBULENCE ASSOCIATED WITH MAJOR CUMULUS BUILDUPS TO 50 THOUSAND FEET AND MORE. THIS CONDITION FAIRLY GENERAL AND PERSISTENT DURING MONSOON, AND INCOMPATIBLE WITH STRUCTURAL LIMITATIONS U-2 ACFT.

5. RE PARA 6 REF., SUBJECT ROADS WERE TO HAVE BEEN COVERED IN MISSION T294A, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED AS BACKUP MISSION TO ONE FLOWN. WITH EASTERN THIRD OF BORDER AREA DUE TO FALL UNDER MONSOONAL INFLUENCE BY APPROXIMATELY 5 JUNE, AND WITH EASTERN

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MAY 55

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25X1A

FROM:

MM

TWO-THIRDS AS FAR WEST AS [] BORDER DUE TO BE UNDER MONSOONAL EFFECT BY 15 JUNE, BELIEVE IT REALISTIC EXPECT LITTLE LIKELIHOOD ANY USEFUL COVERAGE UNTIL 15 SEPT EARLIEST.

6. RE PARA 7 REF, CONCUR IN NECESSITY BRIEFING AS PROPOSED. SUGGEST IT REALISTIC ASSUME TENTATIVE READINESS [] SIDE NOT BEFORE 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT 24 MAY MISSION HQS, WHICH WOULD MAKE IT CLOSER TO 1 JULY THAN 15 JUNE. THERE IS BRIEFING PLANNED FOR 2 JUNE IN [] ON [] MATERIALS, INCL CHICOM TARGETS, BUT THESE BOARDS HAVE NOT BEEN SELECTED TO [] AND OF COURSE WILL NOT INCL 24 MAY MISSION MATERIAL. WISH ASSURE [] HQS WILL PRESS FOR EARLY BRIEFING AS SOON AS CHOICE SELECTION MADE.

7. IN SUMMARY, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT A RE-ENTRY WITH REPLACEMENT MSN ACFT ON OR AFTER 30 MAY WOULD BE MORE MARGINAL IN TERMS OF RESULTS THAN EARLIER IN MAY. IN ADDITION, THERE WOULD STILL BE RISKS INHERENT IN HEAVY THUNDERSTORM ACTIVITY WITH GALES THRU HANGAR, ETC. CERTAINLY ANOTHER STRINGENT LIMITATION OF SEVEN DAYS WOULD FURTHER LOAD THE DICE AS FAR AS ASSURANCES OF GETTING COVERAGE [] AREAS CONCERNED. [] CONCERNED OVER ITEM NOTED PARA 5 REF., PERHAPS THIS MIGHT BE LEVER NEEDED GET THEM AGREE TO RE-ENTRY WITHOUT STOP WATCH FINISH. ALL OF THIS MAY BE ACADEMIC, HOWEVER, IN EVENT CHICOMS RAISE FUSS [] REQUEST [] ADVISE SOONEST ANY LOCAL PERTURBATIONS RESULTING FROM POSSIBLE [] NEXT FEW DAYS. SINCE CONDITION MSN ACFT PRECLUDES REMOVAL SYSTEMS 3 AND 6, WE WILL NOT KNOW UNTIL LATER IF WE WERE CONSISTENTLY TRACKED. FYI, C-124 WILL BRING DOWN AIR BAGS FROM [] WHICH UNABLE BE LOCATED [] IN

SYMBOL

PAIRS.

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FROM:

[REDACTED]

8. DESPITE INTELL COMMUNITY PRESSURE FOR COMPLETE COVERAGE S/I
 BORDER AREA SOONEST, HQS SENTIMENT IS THAT WE MOST ANXIOUS DO EVERYTHING
 POSSIBLE ASSURE MISSION SAFETY. INCL MINIMUM EXPOSURE OF MSN ACFT TO
 VIOLENCE OF ELEMENTS, EITHER AT TERMINAL OR EN ROUTE TARGET AREAS.
 UNTIL FURTHER ADVICE FROM [REDACTED] HQS WILL STAND READY MOVE IN [REDACTED]
 REASONABLE OVER GROUND RULES, [REDACTED]

END OF MSG

SYMBOL

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